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EXCERPT FROM "AN ADDRESS ON MILITARY  
COMMEMORATION DAY TO THE BOYS AND GIRLS  
OF JAPAN IN EMERGENCY", BY WAR MINISTER  
ARAKI, Sadao, ON MAR 10, 1933 (Translation)

Immediately after the Sino-Japanese War, ten years before the Russo-Japanese War, three of the European Powers, including Russia interfered with the Sino-Japanese peace treaty. They were envious of Japan's victory in the war, and not only forced Japan to return the Liaotung Peninsula to China, but one of them, Russia, later got it for herself. Moreover, she was so outrageous in every way toward Japan that, to our regret, the Russo-Japanese War broke out.

Because of Japan's views on peace in the Orient differed from that of the League of Nations, the time had come when Japan was obliged to bid farewell to the League, her twelve years of patient endeavor on its behalf unwarded and leaving behind this brilliant achievement in the cause of world peace, smiling, not complaining.

But the soldiers of Japan, indeed the entire people, are not only strong; they may well be proud that their hearts are merciful -- like a beautiful gem glowing in deep benevolence. \*\*\*\*\*

To cite another example, when a company of our infantry captured a Russian position, one of its men, a Superior Private Goto, a soldier of noble character, found several wounded enemy soldiers groaning in a trench and asking for water. It was scorchingly hot at the time and the fighting had been raging day and night with no let up. Our soldiers were completely worn out. Even a drop of water was as precious as a priceless gem, so parched with thirst were our men. But seeing the wounded enemy, Superior Private Goto thought, these men are just as brave as our men. They, too, are sacrificing their lives for their country. They, too, though enemies, are praiseworthy men. And he gave them is priceless water.



In the Sino-Japanese War, Captain HIGUCHI is said to have found an abandoned baby crying on a battlefield. Under a hail of bullets, the account goes, he picked up the baby and held it in his arm, while leading his men through a fierce engagement.

The stories I have just told you are profoundly touching. They well manifest the beautiful, the happy, the bright, the pure and noble virtues of our people. This is because they were the soldiers of our Emperor, the soldiers of Do (Way of Humanity). They may well be called the Flower of our Imperial Army.

Therefore, even if we fight a war we should be fair and benevolent. War should never be waged with a brutal spirit. Our Imperial Army is the army of our Emperor and therefore exists first and last on a moral foundation.

Therefore, any war which the Japanese army engages in is not fought for the sake of fighting. It must be fully governed by spirit of benevolence. As is often said, it must be a noble war, a clean war, to spread the high principle of Imperial Benevolence -- This we must all bear in mind.



DEF. DOG. #1960

Certificate

Jan. 7, 1947.

An Address on Military Commemoration Day, March 10, 1933, to the Boys and Girls of Japan in Emergency.

I hereby certify that under the above-mentioned title War Minister ARAKI, Sadao broadcast over the radio an address on March 10, 1933, and that the following is the manuscript of that address.

MAEDA, Seiji

Secretary to War Minister,

August, 1932--January, 1934.

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Def, Doc, 1960

Exh, No,

昭和十八年三月十日

「陸軍記念日に當り非常時日本の少年少女に告ぐ」よりの抜萃

この戦争はその時から尙ほ十年間、日清戦争の後、日本人の勝利を嫉んで歐羅巴の大きな三つの國其内の一つが露西亞でありますか之等の國が干涉をして、遼東半島といふ廣袤富強に還さしたばかりでなく、その後自分でこれを奪つて、尙ほ亂暴の限りを盡した爲に、殘念ながら到頭起つたのがこの戦争であります。

東洋平和に對する聯盟の精神と、日本の精神と異なるために、十二年も聯盟のために努めた功績も報ひられずして、この輝かむ世に世界平和のためになつた功績を後にして、笑つて聯盟とお別れを告げねばならぬ時になつたのであります。

併し日本の軍人は否日本國民はただ強いばかりではなかつた。至極微細な調ひのある心、情けの深い所があるといふ事を誇として居るのであります。

又後藤上等兵といふ氣高き兵隊さんはその中隊と一掃に露軍の陣地を占領した時に、野戦の中には敵名の敵の負傷兵が呻きながら大變水を欲しがつて居ります。丁度その時は焦げる様な暑さで而も連日連夜の戦いで身体はまるで綿の様に疲れ果てて居りました爲に一滴の水も寶の様な思ひをして居る場合でありましたがこの上等兵はこの敵の負傷兵を見て、彼等もまた吾



々と同じ様に自分の國の爲命を捧げて傷ついた敵ながら洵に天晴な勇士であると言つて、この貴重な水を與へたのであります、又日清戦争の時樋口大尉は赤子が戦場に殘されて泣いて居たのを見て彈丸飛雨の中でありながら、その子供を拾ひ上げて抱きながら激戦の指揮をしたと言はれて居ります。

只今のやうなお話は本當に血もあり涙もあるものであります、まことに美しい朗らかな、明るい、正しい、清い事、我が國民の美德を十分に具へて居ることをよく表はしたものであります。これが即ち眞に陛下の軍隊、即ち道の軍隊であるからでありまして、所詮なのが所謂皇軍の華と申すのであります。

ですから戦争をしても仁愛と公明がなければならぬ戦争は決して殘忍な精神でやつてはなりません。皇軍は天子様の軍隊でどこまでも道徳的存在です。故に日本の軍隊の従ふ戦争は唯戦ふがためではありません十分慈の心がこもつておなねばなりません、即ちよく申す皇道を布き行ふ聖戦であります清い戦であります此事はよく心得ねばなりません。

Def, Doc, No, 1260

昭和八年三月十日

證

明

書

一、陸軍記念日に當り非常時日本の少年少女に告ぐ

陸軍大臣 荒 木 貞 夫

右ハ昭和八年三月十日荒木貞夫ガ陸軍大臣在職中ラジオ放送ヲ爲シタル  
時ノ原稿ニ相違ナキ事ヲ證明候也

昭和二十二年一月七日

自昭和七年八月  
至同 九年一月 陸軍大臣秘書官 前 田 正 實